

writing from a Secretary of State, in whom that particular power is lodged, as one of the first ministers of government. What shall we say then when we hear that a member of Parliament has had all his papers seized by virtue of a verbal order of a Secretary of State, whose powers as a Magistrate (in which character only he acts in this instance) are no higher, than those of a justice of peace?"

"The papers have been carried to the Secretary of State's office, and there thoroughly examined. The newspapers have already published some of the privacies contained in them. Is this Law? Is it LIBERTY? Is it GOVERNMENT? Or is it TYRANNY and OPPRESSION? If it is Law, where is LIBERTY? If it is not Law, where then is the VOICE OF LIBERTY?"

"But can there be such a law in this free country? One can not surely read it in the Constitution; and if it is in the Statute book, or in the Record of any Court in the Kingdom, it ought not to remain a moment longer capable of being quoted to disgrace the best form of government, and disquiet the freest people. No Englishman, till he hears it read, or is officially informed of it, can believe there is such a law in this land of liberty. Slavery itself could hardly endure it. It must be the heaviest bondage, even where there is no freedom."

"I ask pardon for not doing administration the justice to name the righteous cause their own advocate assigns for this exercise of power; since it was made use of, (these are his words) "not to "entrap or entangle innocence, but manifestly "with an intention of discovering and bringing to "punishment a daring and dangerous offender."